

OHIO RESIDENT EDUCATOR TRANSITION PROGRAM

Fact Sheet 1

In January 2009, Gov. Ted Strickland introduced a new licensure system for teachers in Ohio. This system includes a Resident Educator License for beginning teachers. Recognizing that beginning teachers need additional support and training, the four-year teacher residency program will provide Ohio's newest educators with coaching, mentoring and guidance that is critical to improving *their* skills and knowledge *and* student achievement.

Because the new license will not be issued before January 2011, Ohio must develop a plan that will allow teachers who hold a two-year provisional license to advance to a five-year professional license during the interim period of July 1, 2009, to Jan. 1, 2011.

To ensure that beginning teachers will have a pathway to transition from a provisional teaching license to a professional teaching license, the Ohio Department of Education and Ohio Board of Regents have developed a Resident Educator Transition Program.

The Resident Educator Transition Program will:

- Offer beginning teachers a **yearlong** program of mentoring and support that is aligned to Ohio's Standards for the Teaching Profession;
- Assess the beginning teachers' acquisition of knowledge and skills through the use of formative assessments;
- Require mentor selection based on ODE criteria and mentor participation in ODE-approved training programs; and
- Provide tools to document beginning teacher growth through evidence.

To be eligible to participate in the 2009-2010 Resident Educator Transition Program, beginning teachers must:

- Hold a valid Provisional, Career Technical Route B Provisional or Interim License;
- Teach at least two classes or .25 FTE in their area of licensure;
- Be employed by an ODE-chartered educational entity;
- Work 120 days as determined by the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio; and
- Be assigned an ODE-certified, trained mentor by their employer.

Advancement to a five-year professional license will require evidence of:

- Successful completion of a year-long program of mentoring and support;
- Growth of skills and knowledge (Ohio's Standards for the Teaching Profession) as measured through formative assessments; and
- Signatures of the beginning teacher, mentor and superintendent on the professional license application form.

Further clarification about application requirements for transitioning from a provisional to a five-year professional license will be available soon.

Watch for more information in August related to mentor training opportunities that will be offered regionally throughout the state.